

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **STRADONE**  
County : **CAVAN**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	32
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>192</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Your decision to engage the services of a town planner to draw up a 3 - 5 year Development Plan is commendable and will ensure progress in the competition providing the recommendations are taken on board and implemented. Without this plan you will find it difficult to achieve progress - you urgently need the support of the Local Authority to up - grade the presentation of roads. As mentioned in last years report, community involvement at all levels should be encouraged. We look forward to seeing the development plan.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The very rural environment of Stradone is rich in wildlife habitats and these should be identified - the woodlands, river, lakes, hedge rows and extensive grass verges along all approaches can be incorporated in a nature trail. Woodland areas should be developed to include picnic tables, pedestrian trails and viewing points. Such amenities when properly presented can provide a recreational outlet for locals and visitors alike. Obviously you will require specialist advice in this regard - talk to your local environment experts (Coillte and Cavan County Council) for assistance in identifying opportunities for progress under this heading.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The open green areas of the village are nicely presented and are a striking feature - you should now give consideration to more tree planting as these will add greatly to the amenity value of Stradone. The adjudicator looks forward to further improvements under this heading, as noted in your completed questionnaire.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The GAA Park (Laragh Utd) and Community Hall were very well presented and have a very prominent location in the village. The new cottages also looked well; however, the adjudicator was again disappointed with the Garda Station and Health Board premises. In general most buildings are well presented and it was encouraging to note that the Post Office is making efforts in this regard. Street furniture including the Wishing Well blends in neatly with the well maintained green areas. However, some water pumps need repainting. An improvement under this heading was noted - well done.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control is not a problem in Stradone. The support of FAS and Foroige is appreciated. Do up-date the presentation of litter bins.

### **TIDINESS**

The initial impression is that Stradone has no problem under this heading; however, a more careful adjudication has identified such problems as roads in urgent need of repair and poorly presented buildings i.e. Garda Station and Health Board. With the co-operation of Cavan County Council, Department of Justice and Health Boards these problems can easily be resolved.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The new cottage (terraced) development has now improved in presentation since the landscaping was carried out. It was good to see so many premises freshly painted. Most residential properties in the village are well presented - do pay greater attention to boundary areas and roadside frontages.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

As already mentioned some roads are urgently in need of repair - potholes are developing on the approach from Killeshandra. Improvement of all approach roads is a feature of this years effort. The maintenance of verges, hedging etc. needs to be carried out on a regular basis to create real impact. Your FAS workers should be of great help in this regard. Advance and directional signs likewise need regular maintenance to ensure a clean and tidy appearance at a distance - their sighting should not be impaired by overgrown hedging. Some back areas still need attention. Your proposed development plan should give a priority rating to the problems identified under this heading.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Attention to detail is now of priority - the full support of Cavan County Council in relation to road repairs is a matter of urgency. The Tidy Towns committee is congratulated on the decision to engage the services of a town planner. This will ensure a more positive approach and will identify areas of opportunity for further enhancement. The plan will also expedite progress. Another good performance this year - well done.